## Linda S. Adams Secretary for Environmental Protection

## NEWS RELEASE



## California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region

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## CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICER ISSUES \$27,000 IN COMPLAINTS FOR MANDATORY MINIMUM PENALTIES

SACRAMENTO – The City of Lodi and Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 1 face penalties of \$21,000, and \$6,000 respectively for numerous violations of permitted effluent limits at their wastewater treatment plants.

The Executive Officer of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has issued \$27,000 in Administrative Civil Liability Complaints for assessment of mandatory minimum penalties (MMPs) for these two facilities. These complaints may be considered at the Central Valley Water Board's regular public meeting on October 7, 8, or 9, 2009.

The City of Lodi faces \$21,000 in MMPs for effluent limitation violations that occurred at its Pleasant Grove wastewater treatment plant. The penalties are for effluent limitation violations not addressed in a previous complaint and violations that occurred from January 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009. The city violated effluent limitations for biochemical oxygen demand, total coliform organisms, manganese, and pH. Treated wastewater is discharged to Dredger Cut, which is a tributary to White Slough, which is a tributary to Bishop Cut, which in turn enters the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Placer County Sewer Maintenance District No. 1 faces \$6,000 in MMPs for effluent limit violations that occurred at its wastewater treatment plant, which serves the unincorporated area of North Auburn. Between January 1, 2008 and December 31, 2008, the effluent limit for copper and lead was exceeded twice. Treated wastewater is discharged to Rock Creek, which is eventually a tributary to both the Bear River and the Sacramento River.

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for preservation and enhancement of quality in water resources. The Board may consider the complaints at its regular public meeting on October 7, 8, or 9, 2009.